



Florida House of Representatives  
Representative Kevin J. G. Rader  
District 78

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July 19, 2010

The Honorable Charlie Crist  
PL 05 The Capitol  
400 South Monroe Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001

Dear Governor Crist,

It is my intent in writing you today to ask that the matter of our state's unemployed workers be addressed during Special Session this week. Since June 5, 2010, more than 35,000 Floridians per week have been losing unemployment compensation benefits. Soon there will be 250,000 unemployed Floridians who will no longer be receiving benefits unless Florida acts now.

During regular Session 2010, I proposed legislation that extended the time limit until Session 2011 for Florida to receive 100-percent federally funded extended benefits to eligible unemployed workers. Since it was not passed, Florida now stands to miss out on approximately \$290 million of federal funds that could be going straight into our state's economy. Positioning our state through legislation to accept extended benefits funds, should Congress approve it, would be at no cost to our state's employers at a time when our unemployment rate still lingers above 11-percent.

In close, I implore you to encourage expansion of the Special Session agenda to include that of our thousands of unemployed workers who, if nothing is done, will stand to lose so much unnecessarily.

Sincerely,

KEVIN J. G. RADER  
State Representative  
District 78

Cc: The Honorable Jeff Atwater; The Honorable Larry Cretul